

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10  
LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 L-03  
NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 HA-05 /087 W  
-----073759 171855Z /43

P 171719Z FEB 78

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5692  
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS  
AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
USINT BAGHDAD  
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
AMCONSUL CASABLANCA  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY DOHA  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM  
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
AMEMBASSY MANAMA  
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO  
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT  
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT  
AMEMBASSY SANA  
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI  
AMEMBASSY TUNIS

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E.O. 11652: NA  
TAGS: ELAB EG KU XF  
SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN FEDERATION OF LABOR WITHDRAWS FROM  
- ICATU

REF: KUWAIT 0947

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SUMMARY. EFL HAS ANNOUNCED WITHDRAWAL FROM ICATU MEMBER-  
SHIP, BLAMING "EFFORTS DRAG CONFEDERATION INTO COMMUNIST  
SPHERE OF INFLUENCE" AND SLANDER OF EGYPTIAN TRADE  
UNIONS FOR SUPPORT OF SADAT INITIATIVE. WE BELIEVE  
MOTIVATION WAS TO PREEMPT POSSIBILITY THAT REJECTIONIST-  
DOMINATED KUWAIT CONFERENCE SUSPEND OR EXPEL EGYPTIANS  
FROM ORGANIZATION. END SUMMARY.

1. EGYPTIAN FEDERATION OF LABOR (EFL) PRESIDENT AHMED CONVOKED PRESS FEBRUARY 16, FOLLOWING EMERGENCY MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, TO ANNOUNCE FEDERATION'S RESIGNATION FROM INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF ARAB TRADE UNIONS (ICATU). AHMED SAID EFL EAGER TO CLEANSE ARAB TRADE UNION MOVEMENT OF "FOREIGN POLITICAL INFLUENCE, PARTY POLITICS AND TRADERS IN SLOGANS. . . EFL WILL TAKE FIRM STAND AGAINST THE CONSPIRACY THAT IS WOVEN TO DRAG THE ICATU INTO THE COMMUNIST SPHERE OF INFLUENCE." AHMED SAID EFL HAD GONE TO KUWAIT TO EMPHASIZE ITS GOODWILL AND EAGERNESS PRESERVE ARAB TRADE UNION UNITY, TO CONTRIBUTE TO EFFORTS FOR WELFARE OF ARAB WORKERS AND TO REALIZE ICATU OBJECTIVES. IN KUWAIT, HOWEVER, EGYPTIAN DELEGATION BECAME AWARE THAT "SOME ARAB POLITICAL TRENDS" (I.E. BAATHISTS) HAVE RECRUITED SOME TRADE UNIONS LEADERS "TO SPREAD FALSEHOODS AND INDUCE A HOSTILE STAND TO THE EFL FOR ITS UNWAVERING SUPPORT TO PRESIDENT SADAT'S PEACE INITIATIVE."

2. EGYPTIANS UNAVAILABLE FOR COMMENT FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, BUT SEEMS REASONABLE TO CONCLUDE THAT EGYPTIAN DECISION DESIGNED PREEMPT POSSIBILITY THAT SPECIAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE WOULD DECIDE SUSPEND OR EXPELL MEMBERSHIP IN ICATU. ONE DOESN'T DO SUCH THINGS TO EGYPTIANS AS SADAT DEMONSTRATED BY BREAKING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RELATIONS WITH FIVE REJECTIONIST STATES FOLLOWING TRIPOLI CONFERENCE DECISION TO "FREEZE" RELATIONS WITH EGYPT. EGYPTIANS WILL TAKE COMFORT IN, AND PERHAPS TREAT AS MORAL VICTORY, FACT THAT SYRIANS AND IRAQIS UNABLE MAKE COMMON CAUSE LONG ENOUGH FOR EFFECTIVE MANIPULATION OF CAMPAIGN AGAINST EGYPT.

3. BELIEVE EGYPTIANS WOULD DISAGREE WITH KUWAITI GOVERNMENT VIEW THAT KUWAIT MEETING WAS INSIGNIFICANT, PARTICULARLY SINCE ONE AGENDA ITEM WAS ELECTION OF NEW ICATU SEC GEN AND OTHER WAS POSSIBLE TRANSFER OF HEAD-QUARTERS OUT OF CAIRO. EILTS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** WITHDRAWAL OF MEMBERSHIP, LABOR UNIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 feb 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978CAIRO05363  
**Document Source:** CORE  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Message ID:** 55ffa2d4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
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**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 KUWAIT 947  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** EGYPTIAN FEDERATION OF LABOR WITHDRAWS FROM - ICATU  
**TAGS:** ELAB, EG, KU, XF, ICATU  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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